

News Release



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Increased Public Access

Refugio State Beach to Eliminate 20 Campsites; Result Will Be Improved Public Access for All

Twenty campsites will be removed from the Refugio State Beach reservation inventory for the upcoming summer to facilitate construction of a new restroom building that meets American with Disabilities Act (ADA) requirements, State Parks officials announced today.

"The construction of this new restroom facility will mean that senior citizens, families with young children and adults with disabilities will soon be able to enjoy Refugio State Beach with the same ease and convenience as the rest of us," said District Superintendent Richard A. Rojas

The affected sites are within the immediate area planned for construction, and park officials said they did not want any visitor to be placed in an unsafe location surrounded by daily construction activity. The park currently has 80 campsites.

The Channel Coast District was awarded ADA funds in July 2002 to construct a new restroom (building #5) at Refugio State Beach. The district planned to obtain all required engineering plans, specifications and necessary coastal permits by January 1, 2003 and complete construction well before Memorial Day Weekend 2003.

But the permits were issued earlier this month. In order to preserve the project and the funds to complete the new building this year, Reserve America was asked by State Parks to remove only 20 campsites from the Refugio State Beach inventory of 80 campsites for the summer season.

Refugio State Beach Palm is located 20 miles West of Santa Barbara on Highway 101 at Refugio Road. A bike trail along the beach bluff connects the beach with El Capitán State Beach 2.5 miles east.

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